The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com



The Commercial Review/Bailev Cline

Wheel spinner

Lane Holtzleiter, 12, helps his father Steve turn the wheel on a Spang and Company engine from Butler, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday during the Tri-State Antique Engine and Tractor Show at Jay County Fairgrounds. The show continues today through Saturday.

Grant awards go to 16 projects

teachers will receive funding support.

The Portland Foundation on Tuesday announced more than Creativity Mini Grants.

foundation's

also awarded grants to six teach-

Community Center received a pair of grants totaling \$125,000 in grants via its sum- more than \$25,000 via two mer grant cycle and Teacher grants, \$17,700 for senior programming and \$7,500 for the board after school Boys and Girls Club

Sixteen local projects and six out of a total of 21 requests. It ior programing came half from interest funds established to \$5,000 for electronics compounrestricted funds and half from the Ralph and Bertha Green-Tony and Helen Saffer Fund for the Elderly, the Elizabeth A. Starbuck Fund for the and Helen Stroud Endowment

support senior citizens.)

Arts Place and Jay County Robotics also each received a pair of grants. Arts Place was awarded \$15,000 for its 2024 Arts Elderly, the Ralph Denver Stroud in the Parks program and \$7,500 for its 2024 Hudson Family Park Fund and the Joseph Vomohr summer concert series. Jay approved \$123,917 for 16 projects programs. (The funding for sen-Memorial Fund, all field-of-County Robotics will receive

nents for its competitive programs and \$2,000 for new fields and game elements.

Also receiving grants of \$10,000 or more were: •Jay County Fair Association

\$12,500 for an engineering study on Floral Hall

See **Awards** page 2

ay rate jumps to 3.8%

The Commercial Review Jay County was able to head in the right direction when unemployment shifts were a mixed bag in June.

It couldn't hold off the unemployment increases last month.

Indiana Department of Workforce Development estimates released this week show Jay County had an unemployment rate of 3.8% in July.

The local rate went up by 0.5 percentage points from

the previous month. (In June, most counties in the state had unemployment stretch of three-plus years increases. Jay County's number dropped by 0.1 percentage points.)

Jay County's rate was 3%

in July 2022. Rates throughout the shutdowns.) area and the state were up last month, as Adams, Delaware and Randolph counties all saw unemployment rate increases of 0.5 percentage points or more. Indiana's rate climbed 0.3 percentage points to 4%.

Despite the increase, Jay County continued with an unemployment rate of 4% or lower. (It had spiked to 19.9% in April 2020 at the height of the coronavirus pandemic

The local rate tied with Randolph County and three others for 37th-highest in Indiana. (Jay County was also tied for 37th-highest in June.)

Gibson County again posted the lowest unem-

State set aside \$75 million

to fund health departments

ployment rate in the state. tying with Daviess County at 2.9%. Wells and Dubois

counties were next at 3%. Adams County, which has been a regular among the 10 lowest rates in the state for years, dropped to a tie for the 34th-lowest rate as its number went up by 0.6 percentage points in

Lake County continued to have the highest unemployment rate in the state at 5.8%.

See Rate page 2

Most counties opt in to \$\$

By WHITNEY DOWNARD Indiana Capital Chronicle

indianacapitalchronicle.com Five Indiana counties are choos-

ing to give up a combined maximum of \$3.3 million in enhanced public health funding from the state in 2024, with the bulk of that funding coming from Johnson County, which qualified for up to \$2.1 million in funds.

But Gov. Eric Holcomb said Tuesday he is happy with the progress – of Indiana's 92 counties, 85, or 92%, have chosen to join the state program with a few days left before a Sept. 1 deadline.

"I think if you would have asked most (people) a few months ago, some smart people told me maybe 50% (would opt in)," Holcomb said. "... this is no state takeover; this is providers and their community; it is about addressing quality of

"Hopefully they'll see the light and seek to join.'

None of the Johnson County commissioners responded to calls from the Indiana Capital Chronicle nor did the public health department.

Johnson County leaders told the Daily Journal earlier this month no mandate. This is about local that the health department didn't

need the funds and already performs the "core public health services" required by the grant funding.

"We're not greedy. I mean, I just think the consensus is we don't need it. So why would we take it?" Johnson County Commissioner Kevin Walls told the local publication. "It could be better utilized someplace else. That's kind of the bottom line.

See Opt page 5



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Tall order

An employee from Custom Sign Center of Columbus, Ohio, installs the new 30-foot sign at Wendy's along Meridian Street on Wednesday. About a week after the fast food establishment opened its doors Aug. 3, Portland Board of Zoning Appeals approved a special exemption use request from Wendy's to put up the sign.

Deaths

Hatfield, Donna Dunkirk Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 79 degrees Tues-

day. The low was 63. There is a chance of showand thunderstorms tonight with a low in the mid 70s. Expect partly cloudy skies Friday with a high in the mid 80s and a 20% chance of rain.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council have scheduled a joint session for 6 p.m. Tuesday in the auditorium at Jay County Courthouse. The agenda will include discussing options for projects through the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP).

Coming up

Friday — Coverage of this week's Jay County Council meeting.

Saturday — Results from the JCHS football team's game at Huntington North.





The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Take a look

From left, Larry McNew of Kokomo, Clint Tumbleson of Ossian, Jay Lyden of New Braunfels, Texas, and Garry McNew inspect an antique engine Wednesday near the 4-H barns during the Tri-State Antique Engine and Tractor Show at Jay County Fairgrounds.

Awards

•John Jay Center for Learning — \$10,000 for financial literacy classes

 Youth Service Bureau - \$10,000 for its Keeping at Risk Students in School (KARSS) program

County REMC received \$8,000 for participation in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. West Jay Community Center was awarded \$7,500 for new fitness equipment and Pennville Pumpkin Festival received \$5,250.

Other grants were: \$5,000 to Youth Opportunity Center for the Family Preservation program in Jay County; \$5,000 to the Asbury Senior Safety Net program; \$3,342 for the 2023 Dunkirk Glass Days festival; and \$2,625 for a concessions cooler for the Portland Rockets.

Lana Hilty, Erin Homan and Brooke Schmiesing all to iknowit.com.

received \$300 Teacher Creativity Mini Grants, which are grants of \$300 or less to help cover the costs of learning experiences that teachers feel are important but are outside their school's budget. Hilty (Jay County Christian Academy - fourth grade) will use the funds for Bristlebot Robotics Classroom Kits, while Homan (General Shanks preschool) will purchase books and other classroom items and Schmiesing will puchase Science of Reading phon-

Other Teacher Creativity Mini Grants went to: Beth Mathewson (East Jay Elementary speech) \$240.20 for Heggerty Primary Extension Curriculum; and Pam Smith and Janelle Kirby (West Jay Elementary third grade) -\$150 each for membership

CR almanac

Friday 8/25	Saturday 8/26	Sunday 8/27	Monday 8/28	Tuesday 8/29
			藻	
86/67	82/59	76/54	78/56	79/55
Another day of mostly sunny skies with the fore- cast showing a high of 86 degrees.		are expected	Sunny skies and moderate temperatures Monday. The high will be 78.	Tuesday's weather should be mostly sunny, with a high of 79.

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$313 million

Lotteries

Mega Millions

1-12-26-36-50 Mega Ball: 7 Megaplier: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$52 million

Hoosier Tuesday

Midday Daily Three: 4-2-1 Daily Four: 5-1-2-0 Quick Draw: 3-9-16-21-22-32-33-36-38-41-43-44-49-51-62-64-66-69-72-78

Evening Daily Three: 2-0-3 Daily Four: 4-9-4-1 Quick Draw: 3-6-7-9-14-18-21-25-31-34-35-39-40-49-51-54-55-56-61-79

Ohio Tuesday

Midday Pick 3: 6-3-8 Pick 4: 4-1-3-2 Pick 5: 6-7-2-5-9 **Evening** Pick 3: 8-2-0 Pick 4: 4-3-0-2 Pick 5: 2-7-0-9-0 Rolling Cash: 1-9-15-23-

Markets

Cooper Fai	rms
Fort Recov	ery

POET Portla	Biorefining nd
Corn	5.8
Corn	5.8

Sept. corn5.74

Wheat5.75

Corn	5.85
Sept. corn	5.85
Mid Sept. corn	5.39

The Andersons **Richland Township**

Corn	5.30
Sept. corn	4.64
Beans	

Central States

wontpeller	
Corn	5.30
Sept. corn	5.10
Beans	.14.00
Sept. beans	.13.95
Wheat	5.40

Heartland St. Anthony

Corn	5.15
Sept. corn	4.89
Beans	13.75
Sept. beans	13.10
Wheat	5.49

Today in history

volcano destroyed the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

War of 1812, British forces captured Washington, D.C. They burned both the White House and the U.S. Capitol.

In 1932, Amelia Earhart took off on a flight from Los Angeles. When she landed a day later in New Jersey, she became the first woman to make a solo nonstop flight across the country.

In 2021, the Jay County High School girls golf team shot 230 at Celina Lynx Golf Club to defeat Allen County Athletic Conference rivals Adams Central (236) and South Adams (238). Janae Jacobs paced the Patriots with her round of 54.

Obituaries

Donna Hatfield

April 24, 1938-Aug. 20, 2023 Donna Hatfield, age 85, passed away at her home on Aug. 20, 2023.

Donna was born on April 24, 1938, in Rita, West Virginia, to parents Tony and Ruth Cook.

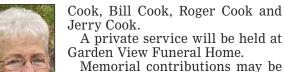
Donna worked and retired from Ball in Dunkirk, Indiana. Donna loved puzzles, being outside to take care of her yard, flowers and garden. She loved her grandchildren and spending time with them.

Donna is survived by two sons, Mike Hatfield (wife: Karen) of five brothers, Jack Cook, Jim al homes or mortuary services.

Dunkirk and Phillip Hatfield (wife: Shawnda) Dunkirk; one daughter, Terri Lewellen (husband: Wade) of Portland; one sister, Clara Skeens of Dunkirk; five grand-Justin children,

Smitley, Janae Hatfield, Jordan Schmitt, Dylan Hatfield and Darrin Harding; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Donna was preceded in death by



made to the Jay County Cancer Society.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city, birth/death date and services.

There is a charge for obit uaries, which are accepted only from funer-

Felony arrests

Battery

A Salamonia man was arrested Monday for bat-

Seth N. Mills, 26, 5739 E. 400 South, was prelim-

inarily charged with a Level 6 felony for battery.

He was being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay County

Capsule Reports

Passing accident

Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000 after a Ridgeville man's vehicle hit an Ohio man's truck while passing other vehicles along U.S. 27 about 4:08 p.m. Tuesday.

Steven L. Georgi, 65, was driving his 2021 Chevrolet Silverado south on the highway near county road 800 South when he drove into the northbound lane to pass multiple vehicles. according to an accident report from Jay County Sheriff's Office. As he attempted to re-enter the southbound lane because of oncoming traffic, he struck a 2022 Ford F-550 driven by 32-year-old Marcus A. Thompson of Eaton, Ohio. Thompson and a witness, Carla Albrecht, both told police a school bus was at the front of the line of cars Georgi had attempted to pass.

Thompson's truck is registered to Gateway Tire Company of Monroe, Ohio.

Off road

A Portland man was injured after his vehicle went off the side of county road 300 North and caught on fire about 1:54 p.m. Tues-

Koby W. Lewellen, 18, told police he was driving his 2012 Ford Fusion east on the road when a vehicle caused him to go off the north side of the road into a ditch. Lewellen's vehicle rolled twice and caught on fire.

sustained Lewellen injuries from the crash. Damage is estimated \$10,000 between and \$25,000.

Drove off road

A Montpelier man drove off county road 200 South and crashed into a pole about 4:36 a.m. Tuesday.

Garrett M. Williams, 30. was driving a 2011 Buick Lucerne west on the road just west of Blaine Pike when he dropped a lit cigarette inside the car, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. Williams told police he reached down to grab the cigarette and drove off the south side of the road into a ditch, where he hit a utility pole owned by Frontier Communications.

Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

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Vesuvius erupted. The

In 1972, A fire at a

In 79, Italy's Mount dump owned by Joe Mumby on Jaqua Avenue in Portland caught fire, with thick, black smoke — it was accompanied by In 1814, during the a stench — hovering over Portland. It took firefighters more than three hours to douse the fire.

SERVICES

Today Rines, John: 10 a.m., Baird-

Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Friday

Phillips, Larry: I p.m., Mississinewa Congregational Christian Church, 7708 W. 700 North.. Ridgeville.

Saturday

Miller, Scott: 10:30 a.m., West Missionary Church, 4295 W. Indiana 218, Berne.

Davis, Lawrence: II a.m., Gravel Hill Cemetery.

Service listings provided by **PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS** 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201 progressiveofficeproducts.com

Continued from page 1

The only other counties at 5% or higher were Favette (5.6%), Howard

(5.3%), Elkhart (5.2%) and Delaware (5%). Area rates are as fol-

•Adams County: 3.5%, up 0.6 percentage points,

tied for 34-lowest Blackford County: 4.5%, up 0.2 percentage points, tied for 10th-high-

•Delaware County: 5%, up 0.5 percentage points, fifth-highest

•Jay County: 3.8%, up 0.5 percentage points, tied for 37th-highest

Randolph 3.8%, up 0.6 percentage points, tied for 37th-high-

•Wells County: 3%, up 0.1 percentage points, tied for third-lowest

PART-TIME **OPPORTUN**

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Inserter

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Citizen's calendar Court St., Portland. Thursday 3 p.m. — Jay County Personnel Committee, ty Solid Waste Management District, 5948 W. auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St.,

Monday

Portland.

9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. 131 S. Main St.

Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building,

6 p.m. — Dunkirk

3:30 p.m. — Jay Coun-Indiana 67, Portland.

Meeting set to discuss priorities

Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District will host an Environmental Quality Incentive Program meeting at 7 p.m.

The meeting will be at Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. The meetings being held across the state are intended to discuss local priorities in order to make recommendations to the Natural Resources Conservation Service state conservationist, who identifies priority natural resource concerns that help guide how funding assistance is distributed.

Tom Cherry

Miss Kitty and Marshal Dillion will be in Farmland this weekend.

Tom Cherry's Old Time Radio Show will present an episode of "Gunsmoke" at 3 p.m. Aug. 26 at Farmland Community Center, 100 N.

Tickets are \$1. For more reference materials.

Taking Note

information, call (765) 468-

Help available

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology is again offering middle school and high school students assistance with homework through its AskRose Homework Help program.

Tutors are available to assist students from 7 to 10 Sunday through Thursday. Sessions are available via video, phone, email or chat. During those hours, tutors can be reached at askrose.org or (877) 275-7673. The AskRose website also offers more than 500 instructional videos and downloadable

Boyfriend dragging feet

DEAR ABBY: I'm 44, and I have been dating a wonderful man for the last year and a half. He's 44 as well. He has a nice home and job and has 50/50 custody of his three children, who adore me. I'm good to them, and we all get along well, just like a family.

The problem is, he goes back and forth about marriage. I have made it clear that, although I have no desire to pressure him, I do want to be married again one day. I said I'd rather be let go than led on. He said he isn't sure, and some days he says he may never remarry.

The last time we talked about it, he said it's a "possibility," but he didn't want to be pressured — it has to be his idea. How long should I wait until I say enough is enough? I'm not getting any younger. — FIXED ON MAR-RIAGE

DEAR FIXED: When was the last time you had this discussion? You have described a man who is comfortable with things just the way they are. A year and a half is a reasonable amount of time to decide whether a relationship is seri- CLOSURE

Dear Abby



ous enough to lead to something more. Give him six more months, during which you do not mention the word "marriage." By then, you will have invested two years. After that, ask if he has made up his mind about the two of you being married, and if his answer is anything less than yes, move on.

DEAR ABBY: I have a family issue concerning the recent death of my only (younger) brother, who died of pneumonia in Georgia. His wife had him cremated the following day instead of having a funeral. She didn't inform his immediate family about it until it was over. Was that legal? And was it the right thing to do? — NO FAMILY

DEAR N.F.C: Please accept my sympathy for the passing of your younger brother. When the sibling is younger, the loss can be particularly poignant.

When a married individual dies, it is legal for the surviving spouse to determine what will happen to their loved one's remains.

We don't know if the subject of funerals, memorials, burials or cremations was ever discussed between your brother and his wife. If you are wondering, rather than judge her, ask her. He may have expressed a wish not to be put into the ground, or he may have been cremated for financial reasons. While you are at it, ask if she's planning any kind of memorial. If she isn't planning anything, you may want to host one for yourselves.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at Dear Abby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Community center blood drive had 51 donors

blood Tuesday to American Red

Cross at Jay Community Center. Donors were Joyce Eldridge,

Jack Freeman, Stephen Fennig, John Hart, Billy Sipe, Michael othy Danielson. Also Jill Hem- ris, Cynthia Morris, Beverly

Approximately 51 donors gave Schmidt, Terri Burk, John Janak, melgarn, Coleen Culp, Carla Westgerdes, Darrel Borders, Jef-lor, Jed Misner, Michael Eads, Pogue, Ralph Frazee, Kay West-Jodi McKee, Ana Minnich, gerdes, Herbert Westgerdes, Michael Timmerman, Rebecca David Osenbaugh, Lorrisa Bous-Marlene Runyon, Paula Barron, Kunkler, Brian Kunkler and Timman, Douglas Shidler, Tim Mor-

frey Pogue and Franklin Hogle.

Ålso Donna Bruggeman, Elizabeth Schoenlein, Ernest Schoenlein, Christina Hart, Doris Muhlenkamp, Rose Howell, Joel Tay-

Sarah Jellison, Michelle Mumbower, Duane Monroe, Isaac Baker, Nichole Parks, Susan Myers, Bart Rice, Monty Sibery. Amy DeVoss and Paula Sibery.

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To subanitem, email news@thecr.com.

Thursday

CELEBRATE RECOV-ERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

LAWYERS LIBRARIES — Free and confidential consultations with a lawyer are available ANNA'S HOPE — A faithfrom 10 a.m. to noon at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Consulting is available on topics including divorce, custody, guardianship, tenantlandlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration. Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or call (260) 726-7890.

DEMÈNTIA SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 5:30 p.m. at Persimmon Ridge Rehabilitation Centre, 200 N. Park St., Portland.

Friday

ICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIpased recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

PORTLAND BREAK-FAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant. PING PONG — Will be

played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

EUCHRE played starting at 1 p.m. PAST RECOVERY SERV- each Monday at West Jay

Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appoint-

ment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

BREAD OF LIFE COM-MUNITY FAMILY MEAL Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome.

ANONY-NARCOTICS MOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

Tuesday

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will

be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is wel-

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will

meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-

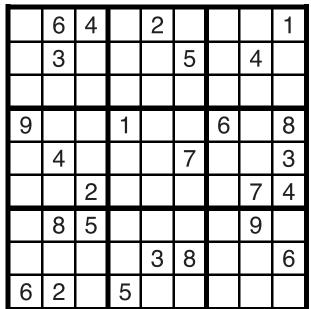
A BETTER LIFE - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the For more information, call meeting is from 6:30 to 8 (260) 766-9334.

p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

NARCOTICS ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creagor Ave. in Portland.

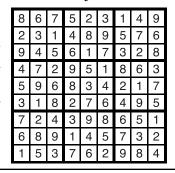
Sudoku

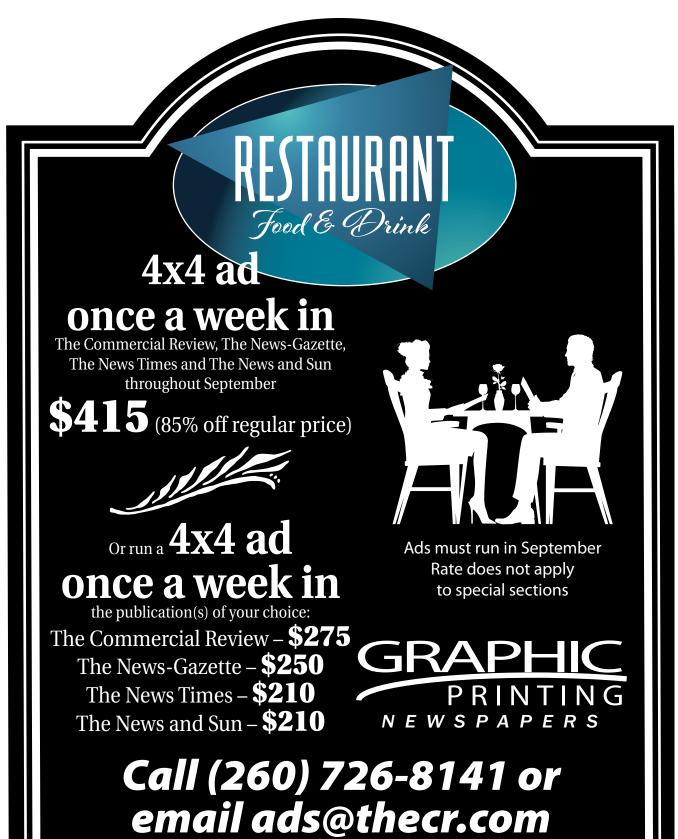


Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

The objective is to fill a nine-by nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-bythree boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.





Hoosiers' votes are being wasted

By MORTON J. MARCUS

The Old Testament book of Lamentations must be popular reading these days.

Both the Left and the Right want the restoration of times past. The difference is the Left is phlegmatic and, like the author(s) of that book, cries for relief from above. The Right, however, has weaponized dis-

How is the Right winning? They took control of legislatures and the Congress via radical reappointment. It happened slowly by a careful strategy with clear objectives.

If you want to do something about abortion rights, educaEye on the Pie



even zoning regulations, you have to reach the legislators who make the laws that govern.

Yes, we have seen dramatic wins in ballot measures on abortion rights in Kansas and Ohio. But we have seen no consequential change in the composition of legislatures themselves.

tion, environmental condi-district lines for the benefit of redistricting, street repairs, regardless of party, will do the 2022 House elections). Each

everything necessary to pre- of those 47 seats needed only advantage if possible.

Look at Indiana's state House of Representatives. Republicans have 70 of 100 seats. There's nothing wrong with that, if that is what the people of Indiana choose.

But the people did not make that choice. It was made by the two political parties. Republicans declined to run candidates in 14 of the 30 seats held by the Democrats. For their part, Democrats declined to run candidates for 33 of the Republican held seats.

Thus, Hoosiers have 47 of 100 This is a result of drawing seats uncontested in the House. In total, 652,000 votes were

serve the status quo and gain one person to vote and the uncontested seats would have been won.

> This is not democracy. This is a combination of cowardliness and stupidity. Both parties choose to avoid losing in districts they think unwinnable. They don't want to waste money and energy on losing this campaign and have little interest in future contests.

When you don't field candidates, you deny your voters the opportunity to support your party. When you don't field candidates you deny all voters the opportunity to hear your program. It may be dismissed today, but can take root and tions, gun violence, health, incumbent officials. They, wasted (39% of all votes cast in grow, if the seed is planted by an active campaign.

Political know-alls tell me more than a 10-point margin (55% vs 45%) is a landslide. Thus, in 2022, we had only 10 seats that were competitive. Republicans won four of those and Democrats six.

Shouldn't we have more competition in politics? The sloth and negativism of our major parties pollutes the political air. The lack of oxygen also suppresses third parties, which garnered only 16,000 votes (less than 1%) for House seats in

Isn't it time to open the doors of the Statehouse and let fresh air in?

Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.

Hawaii needs more aid fast

Bangor Daily News (Maine)

Tribune News Service

In the United States of America, no one state is on its own. No one state has to weather disasters alone. No one state is an island cut off from the resources and reassurances of the larger nation, even when a state is itself a group of islands.

As Hawaiians continue to reel in the smoldering wake of one of the deadliest wildfires in U.S. history, these fellow Americans are far from Maine but squarely in our hearts and minds. Even as we sadly have come to expect climate change-fueled disasters, the horrific blaze that engulfed the island of Maui, particularly the historic area of Lahaina, has been unimaginable. At least 111 people have died and more than 1,000 people remain missing as of Thursday.

The ongoing search identification process is both painstaking and painful. Again, the loss of life and the devastation caused is unimaginable.

We have no trouble magining how the rest of the country must continue to respond, howev-

Ongoing efforts from the Red Cross and other organizations like the Maui Food Bank, the Maui United Way, and the Hawaii Community Foundation and its Maui Strong fund, have and must continue to receive support from Americans across the country. And federal relief through FEMA has already been announced.

But, as with other recent natural disasters, the most significant and necessary support will come in the form of a aid package from Congress. Even before this wildfire, President Joe Biden and his administration were looking for additional disaster relief funding from lawmakers. That ask from the Biden administration of more than \$12 billion will surely grow given the more devastation recent in Hawaii, but political uncertainty is already swirling with more aid for Ukraine also included in the overall package. There is much work for They are not alone.

Guest **Editorial**

The U.S. government must put massive resources behind the general outpouring of support ...

lawmakers to do, and fast, to resolve this uncertainty when they return from their August recess.

We'll point to the recent comments from Biden's former boss, Barack Obama. The former president grew up in Hawaii and implored people on Tuesday to go beyond thoughts and prayers for the state, to take action and support the relief and rebuilding

"As someone who grew up in Hawaii, as someone who has taken my family to enjoy the incredible beauty of that island and the hospitality of the people of Lahaina, we now find ourselves mourning the lives that are lost and our thoughts and prayers go out to the families that have lost so much," Obama said. "The thing about it is though, thoughts and prayers in a moment like this are not enough."

Through all the pain in Lahaina and elsewhere in Hawaii, this should be painfully obvious. The U.S. government put massive resources behind the general outpouring of supand members of Congress and the administration must put politics aside to quickly pass this relief and not allow it to be caught up in other disagreements.

Hawaii may be a group of islands in the Pacific, but they must not be isolated in this recovery.



Public health spending matters

By MICHAEL HICKS

Indiana Capital Chronicle indianacapitalchronicle.com

I frequently am asked why Indiana is spending more money on public health and why it might be worthwhile. For the most part, these are good faith questions. After all, our own health should be a primary concern of any responsible adult. But, I have a good, if unusual example why public health work has a role in state budgets.

A few years ago, I was approached by the dean of a medical school to help them with research on healthcare outcomes. The work was intriguing, since it was centered at the medical school and on rural clinics in Appalachia. So, I was made a research fellow at a medical college. Among the many roles I had was to design studies that could assess gaps in medical care in rural Appalachia.

I directed the study team to look for the opening or closing of a rural clinic, or some other natural experiment. We wanted to better understand how much people were using local medical services, and whether the closing of a local clinic played an important role in healthcare outcomes. I was doubtful that we'd find anything useful in these data. After all, I thought, there is always alternative treatment options within an hour or so drive of even the most

remote places in West Virginia. I was wrong. One day my research assistant called to tell me they had a decade of data about mammogram usage and breast cancer detection in one very rural county. But, near the end of the period for which we had data, the machine broke. It was the only one in the county, and the closest mammography machine was more than an hour drive away. The data shocked me.

Michael Hicks



The clinic was opened in the early 1990's and over the next eight years saw pretty steady use of the mammography machine. The annual usage rose from just over 200 to over 300 mammograms a year. The county had maybe 4,500 women over age 50. So, this is less than 10% of the total of that diagnostic tool that should've been performed each vear, but the growth was steady and over the seven years. This reflected public health efforts to get more women screened. Over this time, use of this mammography machine images resulted in an average detec-

tion of 1.85 cancers each year. Then the machine broke halfway through the year and remained broken into the next year. Over the next three years, annual screenings jumped to over 500 patients. There was also a spike in cancer detections. In the 18 months after the machine was replaced, the total cancer detection doubled from the years before the mammogram machinery was broken. It was not possible to know what exactly happened to cause both the spike in can-

cers and mammograms. The delayed mammogram likely delayed the detection of one or two cancers. I don't know the outcomes of those patients, but the risk of early death due to delayed detection is very large. Putting that risk into dollar terms, ranges from a million to close to three million in impacts. That's sufficient to pay for a new talchronicle.com.

mammography machine. But, that's not all that happened. At the same time the clinic lost its machine, the public health officials in this county worked hard to promote cancer screening.

The combination of reopening the mammography machine and the cancer screening promotion ruined the experiment. So, it was not published. But that didn't ruin the policy relevance of this discovery. Whether it was the work of the public health department emphasizing cancer screening or the replacement of the machine, the benefits of doing so heavily outweighed the cost. At the very low end the benefits were about equal to the costs. At the high end, the benefits were three times the cost of the mammography machine and the cancer screening campaign.

That poor West Virginia County is no different than much of Indiana today. Indeed, our infant and maternal mortality numbers are worse than West Virginia. We can fix this, but it requires public health workers to be active in the poorest and most rural counties in the state.

The governor and legislature provided strong leadership on this issue, leading to a significant boost in state spending on public health. Now it is time for every county to do their part. Fund local public health offices and help reverse the dismal health outcomes that plague our state and its economy.

Hicks is the George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of Economics and Director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University.

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VOLUME 150-NUMBER 81 THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2023 government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter." —**Thomas Jefferson**

"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have

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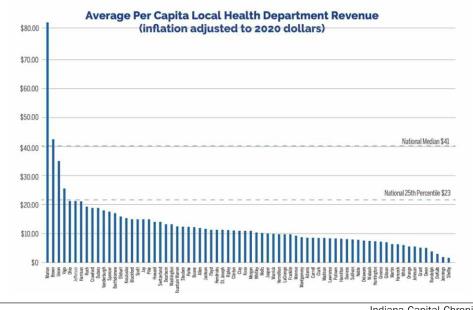
Opt

Continued from page 1 Saying no before the deadline doesn't prohibit the municipality from opting into the funding in future years. Public health departments in four other counties, Whitley, Wells, Fountain and Crawford, all indicated that their commissioners declined the funding as well.

Health departments and commissioners in an additional two counties Adams and Harrison didn't respond to calls about whether they'd meet the deadline for the public health funds.

The Indiana Capital Chronicle called stakeholders in each of the 15 counties the Indiana Department of Health map says haven't yet committed. Eight of those counties indicated that they had decided to opt-in recently but hadn't yet finalized their paperwork, meaning at least 85 counties have committed to participating in the state program.

A yearlong analysis from the Governor's Public that Indiana spends a paltry \$55 per resident annucomes to public health meeting. That came after the governor's office over a



Indiana Capital Chronicle

compared to the nationwide average of \$91.

Spending varied widely from county to county, from \$1.25 in Shelby County to \$83 in Marion County. Of the five confirmed counties that are bypassing the funding, none spent more than \$15 per capita on public health annually.

In Wayne County, poor Health Commission found health metrics and lagging funding pushed commissioners to plan to accept ally on average when it the funds in a Wednesday

citizen input and a planned

'There was no prize for being first," Wayne County Commissioner Jeff Plasterer said. "We went about it deliberately and we have a plan that the council, commissioners and board of health buy into.'

He said there was some public opposition, mostly over maintaining local control.

"We tried to address every issue raised ... called

things," Plasterer Discussions with his local state Rep. Brad Bar-R-Richmond, also comforted the commission-

"He assured us the legislature crafted a bill that protects counties. We are happy to move forward," Plasterer said.

In an effort to incentivize counties to better address the public health needs of their residents, the state committed \$75 million in grant funding line public health workers

budgets — so long as counties continued to pay the average amount allocated in recent years. Each government unit is guaranteed a minimum amount grant dollars and receives the maximum if they meet a set of goals established by the state health department.

Holcomb did express concern about the initial funding provided by state legislators considering that so many counties chose to participate.

"I would have like to have gotten more funding,' Holcomb said. "... divided out amongst more people, it's less money per county. So we've got a long way to go. But like so many things in life, half of it's just getting going in the right direction and then getting some momentum."

"We're well on our way," he continued.

Another \$150 million has been set aside for the second year.

A vocal minority of Hoosiers protested the bill establishing the grant funding, sharing concerns about government distrust especially toward front-

the first year to bolster in the field — following the COVID-19 pandemic. Several county meetings over the funding drew conflicting perspectives on state "control" as commissioners weighed the funding

and its requirements. Not every county forgoing the funding did so due to political reasons, howev-

Marlene Hoag, the newly minted administrator of the Wells County Health Department, said the timing wasn't right for her office following a staffing shuffle.

'We went through some changes here in the last couple of months and so we have decided not to opt into the funding; the commissioners had been hesitant as well," Hoag told the Indiana Capital Chronicle. 'We're kind of going through a transition and we're low on help. So to administer a grant or that funding, we just felt like we didn't have the manpower to be able to carry through."

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

Felony court news

Two Indiana residents were sentenced to jail after pleading guilty in Jay Superior Court to theft, a Level 6 felony.

Julie A. Thomas, 46, 121 W. 5th St., Hartford City, was sentenced to 180 days in Jay County Jail and given credit for 132 days served. Thomas was fined \$25 and assessed \$185 in court costs.

Dylan T. Baughman, 28, 820 W. High St., Portland, was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail and time served. Baughman in court costs.

was fined \$25 and assessed \$185 in court costs.

Battery

Two Portland residents were sentenced to jail after pleading guilty in Jay courts to battery charges.

Daryl L. Cooper, 78, 2981 S. U.S. 27, Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to battery with moderate bodily injury, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail and given credit for time served. Cooper was given 16 days credit for fined \$1 and assessed \$185

Kristin N. McKee, 38, 402 E. Walnut St., Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to battery against a public safety official, a Level 6 felonv. She was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but two days suspended and given two days credit for time served. McKee assessed \$185 in court costs and placed on probation for 363 days. As part of her plea agreement, a Class A misdemeanor for resisting law enforcement and a Class C misdemeanor for refusing to

were disidentify self missed.

Nonsupport

Two Portland men were sentenced to jail after pleading guilty in Jay courts to nonsupport of a dependent, a Level 6 felony.

Brian S. Stiles, 34, 1237 N. U.S. 27, was sentenced in Jay Superior Court to 730 days in Jay County Jail with all but 122 days in Jay County Jail and given two days credit for time served. Stiles was assessed \$185 in court costs and placed on probation for 19 months.

Joshua A. Meckstroth,

33, 116 E. Arch St., was sentenced in Jay Circuit Court to two years in Jay County Jail with all but four days suspended and given four days credit for time served. Meckstroth was assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to pay \$11,265.23 in restitution to the benefit of Angela Luce.

Habitual offender

A Muncie man was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty in Jay Superior Court to operating a vehicle as a habitual traffic violator, a Level 6 felony.

Eugene C. Penny, 43, 1221

East Willard St., also pleaded guilty to possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor. He was sentenced to 730 days in Jay County Jail and given 32 days credit for time served. Penny was assessed \$185.50 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee.

Cases dismissed

Indiana v. Jeff E. Duke, Level 4 felony

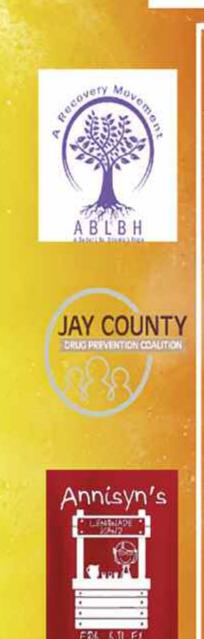
Indiana v. Austin D. Derringer, Level 6 felony

Indiana v. Zachary Fedor Sator, Level 5 felony



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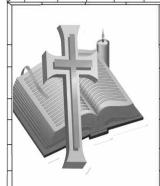
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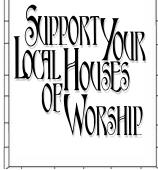
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Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address.

All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

Asbury United Methodist

204 E. Arch St., Portland Joe Boggs (260) 726-8464 Services: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. asburyministries.org

Banner Christian Assembly of God

1217 W. Votaw St., Portland Michael Burk

(260) 726-4282 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Bellefountain United Methodist

440 S. 600 East Gordon Jackson Services: 9 a.m.

Bethel United Methodist

Indiana 167, 4 miles north of Dunkirk Scott McClain Services: 10:45 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends

80 E. 650 South Services: 10 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300

Ava Gannon (260) 726-2373 Services: 9:30 a.m.

East

Bryant Wesleyan

209 S. Hendricks St. Paul VanCise (260) 997-6231 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

bryantwesleyanchurch.com

Calvary United

Methodist 301 N. Main St., Dunkirk Susan Durovey-Antrim (765) 499-0368 Services: 10:30 a.m. susan.duroveyantrim@in

umc.org

Christ Chapel 105 S. Elm St., Fort Recov-

Quentin Elsea (419) 733-1469 christchapelfr.com

Church of Christ

(Southside) 1209 S. Shank St., Port-Bob Graham

(260) 726-7777 Services: 10:20 a.m., 6:30

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)

8472 S. 800 East, Union Services: 10:30 a.m.

Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of God of Prophecy

797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland Nanette Weesner (260) 766-9334 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m. nanybell@yahoo.com

Church of the Brethren

Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland Kevin McClung (260) 729-7295 Services: 10 a.m.

Church of the Living God

Broad Street, South Dunkirk Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m.

Collett Nazarene

450 South, 1 mile west of U.S. 27 Billy Stanton (260) 251-2403 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6

Cornerstone Baptist

211 E. Main St., Portland Wayne Ward (260) 726-7714 Services: 10 a.m.

Cornerstone Church of Pennville

190 W. Main St., Pennville Gary Newton (765) 669-1070 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene 226 E. Center

Dunkirk Tom Fett (765) 768-6199 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6

Evangelical Methodist

930 W. Main St., Portland Steve Arnold (260) 251-0970 Services: 10:20 a.m., 6

Fairview United Methodist/Jay County

2875 E. 200 South Pamela Freeman Lay leader: Beth Stephen (260) 726-9184 Services: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community

9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk Joe Schmit (260) 251-5254 Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center

200 E. Elder St., Portland Ronald Willis (260) 726-4844 Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Fellowship Baptist

289 S. 200 West **Hugh Kelly** (260) 726-8873 Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m. Sunday school: 10 a.m. pastorkelly@fbcportland.com

First American Baptist 427 S. Main St., Dunkirk

Dan Coffman (765) 768-7157 Services: 10:40 a.m.,

First Church of Christ 1049 Union City Road,

Fort Recovery David J. Nicholson (419) 375-2860 Services: 10:30 a.m. fccftrecovery.org

First Community Baptist

341 S. Meridian St., Red-Everett Bilbrey Jr. Services: 10:30 a.m., 6

First Free Will Baptist

12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk Sunday school: 10 a.m. Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

First Presbyterian

402 N. Ship St., Portland Rev. M. Rex Espiritu (260) 726-8462 Services: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school: 10:15 a.m. firstpcportland.org

Fort Recovery Church

of the Nazarene 401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery Revs. Brad and Kate

(419) 375-4680 Services: 10:30 a.m. frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery

United Methodist 309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery Rev. David Porath (419) 678-2071

Services: 9 a.m.

Full Gospel **Lighthouse Tabernacle** 468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk **Robert Thomas** (765) 348-4620 Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30

Geneva First

p.m. Thursday

United Methodist 100 W. Line St., Geneva Barry McCune $(260)\ 368-7655$

Services: 9:30 a.m.

Geneva Nazarene 225 Decatur St., Geneva (260) 525-8609 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m. Sunday school: 9 a.m.

Prayer meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday

Gilead Church

County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec Services: 10:30 a.m.

Hickory Grove Church of the

Brethren Indiana 1 and Indiana 26 Earl Doll (260) 731-4477 Services: 10:30 a.m.

High Street United Methodist

435 High St., Geneva Rev. Joseph Hampton (260) 368-7233 Services: 9 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic 7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant

Fr. Peter Logsdon Fr. Martin Sandhage Services: 8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday Hopewell of

Life Ministries County road 200 South, 2

miles east of Indiana 1 Rev. Ruth Funk (260) 251-8581 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Catholic

506 E. Walnut St., Portland Fr. Peter Logsdon Fr. Martin Sandhage (260) 726-7055 Services: 5:30 p.m. Satur- **The ROCK** day, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel

4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk Stuart Phillips Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

Mary Help of Christians

403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Rev. Alexander Witt (419) 375-4153 Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.

Mount Tabor United Methodist

216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk John Retter (765) 768-7273 Services: 9 a.m.

Mount Zion United Methodist

County roads 600 East and 200 North Rev. Darrell Borders (260) 726-4786 Services: 9 a.m.

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine

4017 W. 200 South Randy Smith (260) 251-2406 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m. nbholiness.com

New Covenant Fellowship

1238 W. 450 South Chuck Myers (260) 251-0063 Services: 10:30 a.m.

New Life Ministries

415 S. Helen St., Portland Dr. Kay Fairchild (260) 755-6354 Services: 4 p.m. drkayfairchild.com

New Mt. Pleasant **United Methodist**

5905 S. Como Road Neil Butcher (765) 499-7838 Services: 9 a.m.

Noble Congregational Christian

1964 N. 800 East Aaron Huey Services: 10:30 a.m.

Oak Grove **United Methodist**

829 S. Indiana 1 Neil Butcher (765) 760-9085 Services: 10:45 a.m.

Pleasant Hill

9945 N. 800 East, Union The Church Bruce Bryan (765) 964-3664 Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m. mypleasanthillchurch.org

Portland First

Church of Nazarene 920 S. Shank St., Portland Steve Cecil (260) 726-8040 Services: 10:45 a.m.

Portland Friends

226 E. Main St., Portland Herb Hummel (260) 202-9732 Services: 10 a.m. Sunday school: 9 a.m.

Praise Chapel

Church of God 4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line) Rev. Josh Canfield (765) 584-7045 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran

Malin and Elm streets, Bryant Father Dan Layden (260) 997-6787 Services: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey Faith **Ministries**

9811 W. Indiana 67, southwest of Redkey Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman (765) 369-2920 Services: 10 a.m. RedkeyFaith.org

Redkey First Christian Union and Malin streets

Jeff Hammers (765) 468-6172 Services: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m. **Redkey United**

122 W. Main St. Lori McIntosh

Methodist

(765) 369-2085 Services: 10:30 a.m. **Redkey Church** of the Nazarene 801 W. High St.

Chuck Hollandbeck

p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

(765) 369-2676

River of Life

722 W. Main St., Portland Susan Hathaway (260) 729-1095 Services: 10:30 a.m.

1605 N. Meridian St., Portland Matt Ransom (260) 726-7474 Services: 10 a.m.

matt@therockjc.org

Salamonia **Church of Christ**

3900 S. 600 East **Bruce Phillips** (260) 335-2017 Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance at Life Ministries

228 S. Meridian St., Portland

Dave Keen (260) 251-8792 Mike Eads (260) 703-0733 Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic 1689 St. Joe Road, Fort

Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt Services: 7:30 a.m. Sun-

St. Mary's Catholic

346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk Rev. Kevin Hurley Services: 5 p.m. Šaturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic

517 Meiring Road, Fort Rev. Alexander Witt Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt

St. Peter Catholic

Services: 9 a.m. Sunday **Sugar Grove Nazarene** County roads 400 North and 550 West Rev. Mike Heckman (260) 731-4733 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sun-

day at Pennville Park from

June through September) Sugar Grove

United Methodist County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk Scott McClain

Services: 9 a.m. **Temple Baptist**

17920Indiana 167, Dunkirk John Elam (765) 768-7708 Sunday school: 10 a.m. Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday 7pillarsdirector@gmail.com

templebaptistin.com

at Westchester 4487 E. 400 North (260) 726-6311 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Services: 10:35 a.m.

churchatwestchester.org

Trinity Lutheran 301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery Robin Owen (419) 375-4498 Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sun-

pastorrobino@gmail.com **Trinity ArchBridge**

dav)

Church 323 S. Meridian St., Portland (260) 726-8391 Services: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school: 10:30 a.m. portlandtrinity.com

Union Chapel

6200 N. 375 West, Bryant Services: 10:20 a.m., 6

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene

County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line) Fred Stevens Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Walnut Corner County roads 200 North

and 500 West

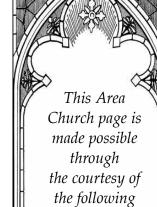
Steve Rogers (260) 251-1113 Services: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m. **West Walnut**

Church of Christ 204 W. Walnut St., Port-

land Gil Alicea (260) 726-4691 Services: 10 a.m. westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

Zion Evangelical **Lutheran Church** Robin Owen

218 E. High St., Portland (260) 726-8832 zionlutheranportland@g Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 mail.com Services: 10:30 a.m.



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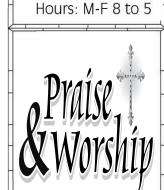
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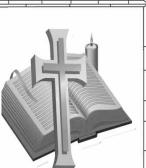
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The bidding:

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EAST • 9 7 4 2 • Q • 7 3 2

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable. NORTH

A question of probabilities



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane Mommy. We'll take good care of you while Daddy's away. Billy

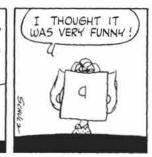
Guest artist Billy gives us a glimpse of the family at home while Daddy is vacationing.

Peanuts



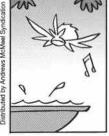






Rose is Rose











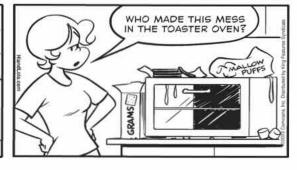
Agnes







LET'S DAD SAID MORES HAVE A CAMP-FIRE IN THE BACKYARD 1- SAIC REAVES



Between Friends









Blondie

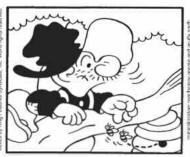


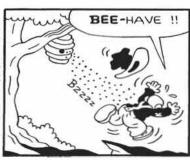




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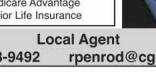
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By Steve Becker

intentions, be guilty of an error in judgment rather than one of per-

In the present case, it might be argued that South made the wrong percentage bid in undertaking a slam after his partner had shown a very weak hand initially. But South

had no way of determining whether his partner had the queen of hearts,

which was all he needed to make

which was all he needed to make the slam.

When dummy appeared, South realized he had misjudged, but this did not stop him from making the contract. He won the opening dia-mond lead and, after just a brief rause for thought, exturned the

pause for thought, returned the king of trump! When East turned

reasons - it was the only play that

could make the contract, and at the same time could not be the cause of

By Eugene Sheffer

21 Former

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26 Drawing

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28 Recline

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DUXXUIZ

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

CRYPTOQUIP

FSRBSUI EPQ BAO PUX-FSQQWUIZ

HAUR, U SHMON BAO FQPDN

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF BASEBALL PLAYER

OR ART, THOSE WOULD BE MANTLE PIECES.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals G

DOWN

1 Melville

2 Only

3 Detail,

captain

in short

4 Kidman

of "The

Hours"

feline

expanse

5 Stray

6 Salty

7 Low-

carb

diet

8 Rum

cocktail

escort

queen of

Jordan

10 Former

19 Cellist

EDITOR

Yo-Yo

9 Attractive 31 Eastern

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up with the singleton queen, declarer was home.

The king play was eminently cor-rect. With no entry in dummy to lead toward his hand, South had no Includes Online.....FREE chance for the slam if the trumps were divided 2-2 or 4-0. In either Classified Display \$6.95/ per column inch case, he would lose two trump case, ne would lose two trump tricks no matter how he played.

His only hope was to find the trumps divided 3-1, with the singleton specifically the queen — about a 13% chance. The king play was therefore right for the best of all reasons — it was the only play that

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County

Continued from page 10

With only one kilometer to go, they had established themselves as the athletes to beat, with only Celina's Jenalee Dameron in sight behind them.

The duo pulled off the one-two finish with times of 20 minutes, 52.5 seconds, for Brunswick, the defending district champion, and 21:18.67 for Huelskamp. Dameron finished nine seconds later for third place.

'Since Natalie was up there too, it pushed me a lot," Huelskamp said. "I heard people yelling Jenalee's name behind me and that pushed

Being a freshman, it was Huelskamp's first 5K race at the high school level. She had a six-minute first mile, fading off on the second with an eight-minute mile. Working on more consistent racing and being able to figure out the third mile is something Diller wants all four of her freshmen (Huelskamp, Reese Diller, Milo Fiely and Russell Hart) to learn going forward.

"Coming from junior high, they've got to figure that third mile out, which doesn't seem like a lot but it's a lot," Diller said. "All of our freshmen today you could tell (were worried) about that third mile.'

The next Indian to cross the finish line was Roessner, who consistently placed between sixth and eighth last season. She was floating around 10th place throughout the entire race, finishing there with a time of 22:39.38. Now fully healthy, Roessner didn't set high expectations for the race, ending up thrilled with the result.

"I am pretty excited about it," Roessner said. "Before the race I thought it would be nice to get a medal but I probably won't." (The top 15 finishers earn medals.) "I did end up getting one so I'm happy about that for sure."

Also medaling for the girls was Ellie Will, who finished 13th at the 24:18.2 mark.

Joelle Kaup rounded out the team score with a time of 25:03.55 (17th). Jenna Hart (20th) and Maddie Heitkamp (32nd) finished in the final two slots for the Indians.

Trevor Heitkamp dominated the boys race from start to finish. Colin Buening of Celina hung around with Heitkamp for the first mile, but fell off in the middle of the second. Heitkamp finished with a time of 17:31.34, 35 seconds faster than Buening.

well, Despite running SO Heitkamp had to ask his dad if he won when he crossed the finish

"That third mile, the heat just got to me," Heitkamp said. "I was fading in and out of awareness. ... My mind switched to 'let's get to the finish line' and didn't worry about my time at all.

Parker Brunswick finished next for the Indians. He started the race as part of the pack up at the front, but slowly paced back to finish 12th (19:05.12).

Diller approached the race a little differently from Brunswick. He was in the mid-30s at the 1K mark. He worked his way up to 21st at the midway point and then to the low teens with only one kilometer to go.

He finished the race at 19:11.73 to medal (13th place).

The other two scorers for the Indians were Evan Evers (42nd -22:24) and Milo Fiely (45th 22:58.67). Filling out the final two spots were Russell Hart (50th) and Caden Marchal (63rd).

"It's a great way to start the year and a confidence builder for them." Diller said. "For the most part a really solid opener."

Junior high

The junior high teams also competed Tuesday with the boys team placing third (73) and the girls fourth (65).

Celina won the boys with 50 points while the girls team from Coldwater won with 41.

Riley Hietkamp earned the county championship for the girls (14:37.13)

Courney Klenke and Kendall Ranly finished back-to-back for the Tribe girls' second and third place. They finished 12th and 13th overall, scoring one place higher each.

Claire Grube (23rd overall, 18th scoring) and Addyson Heitkamp (32nd overall, 23rd scoring) rounded out the girls scores.

Alex Roessner crossed the finish line at 13:16.99 to finish third for the boys team.

Next up was Charlie Stammen. earning 13th-place.

Despite a 14-second gap, Evan Diller and Andrew Rehmert finished back-to-back to claim 17th and 18th for the Indians.

Chase Fiely earned the final score, coming in 22nd.

Tribe pulls out win in 5

FORT RECOVERY The first set didn't go the way the Indians were hoping, but they found a way to pull out the win in five.

The Fort Recovery High School volleyball team won its season opener Tuesday against the St. Marys Memorial Roughriders in five sets, 19-25, 25-23, 25-21, 20-25, 15-7.

Teigan Fortkamp excelled attacking the net, as she had a team-high 19 kills. She also had a hand in the Indians' defensive effort with four digs, and had a team-high four aces.

FRHS junior Kennedy Muhlenkamp also had a big day with 14 kills, seven digs, one block and three aces without committing a service error.

Kayla Heitkamp put in some strong work for the Indians as a setter, assisting her teammates 33 times throughout the match.

Guggenbiller and Saige Leuthold stopped five balls combined at the net while adding two kills apiece.

In the middle, Paige

Boys bounce back

ANARCUM, Ohio — After falling to St. John's on not count towards the Indi-Monday, the Fort Recovery ans' team score.

FRHS roundup

boys golf team bounced back with a 168-188 victory over the Tri-Village Patriots at Beechwood Golf Course on Tuesday.

Reece LeFevre was the match medalist with a 39 (three over par). He shot four pars and a birdie on the 10th without ever shooting over a bogey.

Behind LeFevre was Keegan Muhlenkamp with 40 strokes. Muhlenkamp also shot a birdie, his coming on hole No. 13 and had three pars to go along with it.

Alex Dues shot par three times, including both par-3s en route to a 44.

Reece Evers made his way into the scoring column in his varsity debut this season with a 45. He shot three pars and three bogeys.

Eli Lennartz Matthew Romer's scores of 47 and 49 respectively did

Roundup

Continued from page 9

The Trojans managed only four more shots on Jay County's goal in the rest of the game, all of which were saved by Kaleb Coppock.

New Castle's Andrew Christman saved the other three shots the Patriots took at New Castle's goal.

Runners dominate

The host Jay County Junior High School cross country teams dominated Delta and third and sixth.

Wes-Del in a three-team meet Tuesday.

The Patriots boys finished with only 16 points, just one more than the minimum, while only one point separated Delta (55) and Wes-Del (56). Jay County's girls team had 20 points with Delta following (52) and Wes-Del placing third (76).

Jay County claimed five of the top six boys spots, only missing fifth place. The girls had six athletes place between first and eighth, only missing

The top four boys spots went **Local schedule** to Raif Beiswanger (11:50), Rocky Beiswanger (12:43), Sam Wiggins (12:46) and Grady Warvel (13:05). The final score came from Carson Westgerdes in sixth place with a time of 13:21.

The top two girls were Abby Fifer (13:35) and Jessie Homan (13:51). In fourth-place was Ava May running a 14:21. The final two scores came from fifthplace Brooklyn Byrum (15:08) and seventh-place Lyla Kunkler (15:10).

Sports on tap

Today

Thursday, August 24

Jay County — Boys soccer at Delta – 5 p.m. Fort Recovery — Boys golf vs. Coldwater – 4:30 p.m.; Girls golf at Coldwater at Mercer County Elks - 4:30 p.m.; Volleyball at National Trail - 5:30 p.m.; Middle School football at St. Henry - 5 p.m.

Friday, August 25

Jay County — Football at Huntington North -Fort Recovery — Football vs. Urbana – 7

Today

1:30 p.m. — World Athletic Championships

8 p.m. — WNBA: Las Vegas Aces at Chicago 9:30 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Ari-

zona Diamondbacks (Bally Indiana)

4 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Wawa 250

Powered by Coca-Cola (USA) — NASCAR Cup Series: Coke Zero

Sugar 400 (USA) 6:30 p.m. — Formula 1: Dutch Grand Prix (ESPN2)

— NFL: Detroit Lions at Carolina Pa thers (CBS)

8 p.m. — WNBA: Las Angeles Sparks at

Atlanta Dream (ION)

8 p.m. — High School Football: Lipscomb
Academy at Saraland (ESPN)

9:30 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Ari-

zona Diamondbacks (Bally Indiana) 10 p.m. — NFL: Los Angeles Chargers at San Francisco 49ers (CBS)



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		11114017,000
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12521A	ROTARY CUTTERS & FINISH MOWEL Woods rotary cutter BW1800Q, 15' width, BatWing Land Pride FDR2572 72" wide, 3pt, new style gear box	RS \$15,900 \$1,150
12521A 12458A	ROTARY CUTTERS & FINISH MOWEL Woods rotary cutter BW1800Q, 15' width, BatWing Land Pride FDR2572 72" wide, 3pt, new style gear box WAGONS, GRAIN CARTS, AND HEADER C	RS \$15,900 \$1,150 ARTS
12521A 12458A 12040A	ROTARY CUTTERS & FINISH MOWEL Woods rotary cutter BW1800Q, 15' width, BatWing Land Pride FDR2572 72" wide, 3pt, new style gear box WAGONS, GRAIN CARTS, AND HEADER C 25' header cart 25' length, homemade	RS \$15,900 \$1,150 ARTS \$1,950
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BROTHERS, INC.

Sports/Classifieds



The Commercial Review/Rick Reed

Sophie Saxman, a senior at Jay County High School, sets a ball during the Patriots' three-set sweep of Winchester on Tuesday.

Continued from page 10 The taller and more athletic Patriots were better at the net and dug out nearly every serve. Jay County's superior serving left the Falcons scrambling to keep volleys alive.

The Patriots finished with a season-best 21 aces, including 12 combined by their senior setter Sophie Saxman and libero Brenna Haines.

Senior front-liner Isabella Denton led the attack game with nine kills. Haines had seven digs, and Saxman led with 19 assists.

"We were great at serve receive and just didn't let balls drop," said Dillon." Our libero, Haines, did a great job, as did our setter, Saxman. But really, they all played great tonight. I was very pleased."

Winchester, falling to 3-4, lost most of its 2022 starters to graduation and was coming off a hard-fought, five-set win over Knightstown on Monday.

Jay County improved to 2-1, with its lone loss to Delta. The Patriots host Fort Recovery on Tuesday and travel to Class 2A No. 1 Wapahani on Aug.

The JV team also swept the Falcons 25-23, 25-9.

Hallie Schweiterman and Kendel Rowles lead the Patriots with five kills apiece. Setting them up was Ella Rigby, who tallied 13 total assists in the match.

Kayla Jetmore led the defensive effort for Jay County with 10 digs.

Muhlenkamp Chloe scored the most service points of the team with seven. Two of those seven came from aces. Paisley Fugiett also had two aces.



Review preview



Jay County Patriots

Portland, 1-0

Coach: Grant Zgunda, third year (27th overall) Conference: Allen County

Last week vs. Blackford: Jay County displayed a balanced offensive attack, rushing for 158 yards and passing for another 135 in their 47-7 win over the Blackford Bruins. The Patriots gave up a total of 173 yards in the contest. A.J. Myers rushed for three touchdowns while Sean Bailey connected with receivers for three more.

Season leaders: Passing — Sean Bailey – 9-of-11 for 135 yards. Rushing — A.J. Myers – 13 carries for 80 yards and three touchdowns. Receiving Justin DeHoff – three catches for 63 yards. Defense — Aiden Phillips- 13 tackles.

at

Huntington North Vikings



Huntington, 0-1

Coach: Mike Eshbach, first year (14th overall) Conference: Northeast 8

Last week at Eastbrook: The Vikings opened up their season with a 27-24 loss to the Panthers last week. Eastbrook jumped out to an early lead before Huntington North tied in in the third quarter. The Panthers earned the win with a fourth-quarter touchdown. The Vikings had 258 yards in the game, 169 of which were passing.

Season leaders: Passing — Ian Wiley. Rushing - Luke Teusch - 25 carries for 61 yards. Receiving — Luke Teusch – three catches for 22 yards and a touchdown.

Last season: Jay County shrunk the difference from a year prior in a 34-14 loss to Huntington North. The Vikings scored two quick touchdowns to begin the second half to end the Patriots' hopes. Huntington North racked up 398 yards, 364 of which were on the ground. The Vikings were able to score three times before Jay County found the endzone. The Patriots scored their first touchdown with 12 seconds left in the first half when Sean Bailey connected with Pattrick Hemmelgarn. The only other score came from Kadin Ridenour in the fourth. Luke Teusch ran for 136 yards in the contest on 12 carries. Tony Decker only attempted two passes in the game, completing both, including a 12-yard touchdown in the second guarter. Both teams surrendered a fumble in the game. Both squads also committed eight penalties, which put 86 yards against the Patriots and 40 yards against Huntington North.

Game notes: This is the 29th meeting all time between Huntington North and Jay County, with the Vikings holding a 21-7 lead in the series, which took a break from 2003 to 2018 ... The Patriots have lost six in a row against HNHS, and their last win in the series was a 28-7 triumph in 2002 ... This is the first of back-to-back road games for Jay County and the first of five games away from Portland ... Jay County has a chance to go 2-0 to start the season for the first time since 2011 when Delta had to forfeit its 55-0 win because of the use of an ineligible player. The last time the Patriots won each of its first two games on the field was in 1996 ... Jay County's 43.89 Sagarin rating ranks 214th overall and 51st in Class 4A, while Huntington North's 51.52 is 164th overall and 40th in Class 4A ... Calpreps.com lists the Vikings as ninepoint favorites.

Patriots earn first ACAC W CELINA, Ohio - Maddy Snow led

the Patriots to their first win Mon-

On Tuesday, she led them to their first Allen County Athletic Conference win.

The Jay County High School girls golf team split a three-team match with the Adams Central Jets and South Adams Starfires on Tuesday at Celina Lynx Golf Club.

The Starfires won the match with a score of 202. The Patriots' 232 was just enough to top Adams Central's

Snow was the match medalist, shooting a 46. She shot par on holes No. 3, 4, 7 and 9.

Following Snow was Meah Devoe

Jay Co.

with a 57. Like Snow, Devoe shot for

par on the ninth hole.

Brooklynn Bright shot a 61 in the No. 3 position for Jay County (2-5, 1-5 ACAC). The highlight of her match was a bogey on the sixth.

Whitney McIntire's 68 wrapped up the score for the Patriots.

Brooklyn Zimmerman's 69 did not count towards the team score, but she shot a bogey on hole No. 3.

Patriots tie

NEW CASTLE — Jay County's boys soccer team finished in a 1-1 tie with the New Castle Trojans on Tuesday.

Both teams' scores came in the first half.

Levi Muhlenkamp scored his sec-

ond goal of the season to put the Patriots (0-1-1) on the board. Brayden Collins assisted Muhlenkamp on the play. The Trojans (1-2-1) tied the game

up with a goal by Caden Johnson. The score came on a corner kick by Owen Barrett, who earned the assist. See Roundup page 8

The Commercial Review

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90 SALE CALENDAR

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ery 1500 watt steam cleaner kit; jacks; cement mixer on wheels; Sears ½ hp grinder; Craftsman 8" bench grinder; Kobalt 12" compact sliding dual-beval miter saw;

number and letter punches; C clamps; Craftsman sander; Rigid battery drill; Makita battery drill; circular saw;

sanders; Craftsman 8" bench grinder; and many other items not listed. CHARLES MOSER, Deceased

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STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT 2023 TERM No. 38CO1-2308-EU-000021

In the Matter of the Unsupervised Administration of the Estate of: Jerry D. Vore, Deceased NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that Troy A. Vore was, on the 18th day of August, 2023, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Jerry D. Vore deceased, who died on August 7th,

All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is ear lier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Portland, Indiana, this

Jon Eads Clerk of the Circuit Court, For Jay County, Indiana HINKLE, RACSTER & SCHEMENAUR

21st day of August 2023.

121 W. High Street Portland, IN 47371 Attorney CR 8-24,31-2023- HSPAXLP

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NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of the Superior Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No. 38C01-2305-MF-000014, wherein CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC was Plaintiff, and Cameron Lee Bullock a/k/a Cameron L. Bullock and Finance System of Richmond

were Defendants, required me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 21 day of September, 2023 at the hour of 10:00 AM or as soon thereafter as is possible at Jay County Courthouse/3rd Floor at 120 N. Court Street, Portland, IN 47371, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indiana:

LOT NUMBER SEVEN (7) IN GROSS' SUB-DIVISION OF OUT LOT THREE (3) OF THE ORIGINAL PLAT OF PORTLAND, INDIANA. Parcel 38-07-20-101-001.000-

More commonly known as 622 N. Pleasant St., Portland, IN 47371-1140.

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisment laws. BRYAN K. REDMOND

Plaintiff Attorney

FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. 8415 Allison Pointe Blvd., Suite 400 Indianapolis, IN 46250 Larry R. Newton, Jr. Jay County Sheriff CR 8-17,24,31-2023-HSPAXLP

READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

www.thecr.com Page 10 **The Commercial Review**

FRHS takes county

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review
FORT RECOVERY The Indians graduated three runners from the team that competed at

state last year. That's no problem for the girls, who reloaded and got strong performances out of freshman Makenna

Huelskamp and junior Anna Roessner to open the season. Four girls medaled as

the Fort Recovery High School girls cross country team claimed the crown during the Mercer County Meet at Ohio Progressive Sportsman Club on Tues-

The girls team claimed the top two spots, as well as three more in the top 20 to finish with 43 points, 10 better than second-place St. Henry.

The boys finished in fifth with a score of 100. They beat St. Henry (136), while Marion Local won the meet with 47.

"Our goal today was to not worry about times and just practice racing, FRHS coach Christy Diller said. "Mission accomplished on that ... I'm happy with today."

Huelskamp and senior Natalie Brunswick set the pace right away for the girls. Approaching the first kilometer of the race, they were together with Huelskamp running slightly ahead.

Brunswick was dealing with a slight cramp in her side, according to Diller, but powered through to take the lead near the midway point of the race with Huelskamp staying strong behind her.

See County page 8



Fort Recovery High Schools Natalie Brunswick (left) and Makenna Huelskamp (right) lead during the Mercer County Cross Country Meet at Ohio Progressive Sportsman Club on Tuesday. The pair of FRHS runners finished first and second in the meet to lead the girls to a county victory.

JCHS rolls over **Falcons**

BY RICK REED

The Commercial Review

Experience took on youth Tuesday in a volleyball match held at the Winchester Fieldhouse.

As one might expect, experience prevailed.

Jay County High School overpowered the young squad of Winchester Community High School 25-12, 25-12, 25-17, using serving. accurate near flawless defense and some precise setting.

Aside from a late flurry against the Patriots' second unit in the third set, the Falcons never mounted a challenge.

'Winchester has some great kids, but they're young so we kind of wanted to take advantage of that," JCHS coach Amy Dillon said. "It helped that we were able to scrimmage against them twice over the summer, so we knew where they were weak and I think we did a good job of exploiting that.

"It was nice for us to be able to get some of our younger players into the game."

From the opening serve, it was clear Winchester would have its hands full.

See JCHS page 9

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